

## Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00

H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01

PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05

BIB-01 INRE-00 DODE-00 ( ISO ) R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/IR:JYOUNG

APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:DKLEIN

PM:VBAKER

NSC:MHIGGINS (SUBS)

OSD:SHANMER

JCS:WWOOD

C:WSHINN

EUR:DJONES

ACDA:THIRSCHFELD

S/S-RKUCHEL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 078922

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT:MBFR: WORKING GROUP DRAFT REPORT ON DATA  
REQUIRING AGREEMENT WITH THE EAST

REF: A. STATE 28114 B. NATO 1762 C. MBFR VIENNA 159

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1. AS POINTED OUT IN REF A, WE BELIEVE IT IS PREMATURE TO CONTEMPLATE A CHANGE IN THE CURRENT NATO GUIDANCE ON DATA EXCHANGE WITH THE EAST. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE EAST MAY ONLY AGREE TO A MINIMAL EXCHANGE OF DATA, MUCH LESS THAN THE QUALITY AND DETAIL ALLIES MAY CONSIDER DESIRABLE. FOR THIS REASON, ALTHOUGH A STUDY OF THE TYPE NOW BEING CONDUCTED BY THE WORKING GROUP IS A USEFUL EXERCISE, WE DOUBT THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE FAR ENOUGH ADVANCED TO WARRANT DEFINITIVE CONCLUSIONS ABOUT WHAT FIGURES ARE ESSENTIAL.

2. WE APPRECIATE DIFFICULTY IN DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN WHAT DATA EXCHANGE IS DESIRABLE AND WHAT IS ESSENTIAL, AND BETWEEN THAT DATA WHICH IS POLITICALLY IMPORTANT AND THAT WHICH IS MILITARILY/TECHNICALLY NECESSARY. WE BELIEVE WORKING GROUP HAS MADE A GOOD BEGINNING IN IDENTIFYING THE RANGE OF POSSIBLE OPTIONS, AND IN HIGHLIGHTING THESE DISTINCTIONS.

3. AT THE SAME TIME, WE AGREE WITH DELEGATION'S COMMENT (REF C) THAT ADDITIONAL DATA EXCHANGE, SUCH AS PHASE I RESIDUAL LEVELS, MAY BE IMPORTANT TO SHOW THAT ALLIES HAVE SECURED A CLEAR CONTRACT. WE BELIEVE THAT AT APPROPRIATE POINT, SPC MIGHT CONSIDER SUCH ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL REQUIREMENTS.

4. WHILE WE CAN AGREE THAT PRE-PHASE I STARTING TOTALS ARE NOT REQUIRED, WE BELIEVE THAT FOR PHASE I THE WEST WOULD REQUIRE, AS A MINIMUM, EXPLICIT AGREEMENT (PERHAPS IN A PROTOCOL) ON THE AMOUNT OF REDUCTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY THE US AND USSR.

5. WE AGREE WITH DELEGATION THAT STRESS ON REDUCTIONS IN UNITS MAY RESULT IN RECIPROCAL DEMANDS BY THE EAST. THIS IN TURN COULD IMPLY CODIFIED EASTERN OVERSIGHT OVER NATO FORCE STRUCTURE, AND WESTERN LOSS OF FLEXIBILITY. IN THE SHORTER TERM, IT COULD LEAD TO A NEGOTIATING PATTERN EMPHASIZING RESIDUAL UNITS, RATHER THAN PERSONNEL NUMBERS, A SITUATION WHICH WE WOULD WISH TO AVOID.

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6. FOR PHASE II, WHILE WE AGREE IT WOULD BE ESSENTIAL TO AGREE ON THE REDUCTIONS TAKEN, WE ALSO BELIEVE IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT TO HAVE EACH SIDE DECLARE THAT THE STRENGTH OF THEIR RESIDUAL FORCES IS EQUAL TO THAT OF THE AGREED COMMON CEILING FIGURE. WITHOUT SUCH AGREEMENT, THE EAST COULD CONCEIVABLY ARGUE THAT THEIR POST-PHASE II STRENGTH HAD BEEN ACTUALLY BELOW THE COMMON CEILING LEVEL AND THAT ANY SUBSEQUENT FORCE INCREASES DID NOT

THEREFORE CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION, EVEN THOUGH WE COULD  
NOT VERIFY SUCH A STATEMENT.

7. MORE SPECIFIC COMMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED LATER AS  
APPROPRIATE. INGERSOLL

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